GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6229
ANSWERED ON:12.04.2017
Economic Blockade
Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to clear up the economic blockade that was imposed by UNC across Manipur, thereby cutting off the State from rest of the country;

(b) whether efforts have been made to rush essential supplies such as medicines, foodgrains, fuel, etc. to the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether investigations have been undertaken to identify the culprits involved in various incidents of arson on the National Highways and across the Hill Districts of the State and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
[Dr. Jitendra Singh]

(a) to (c) The responsibility of dealing with law and order problem rests primarily with the respective State Governments. However the efforts of State Government of Manipur were supplemented by the Central Government. As per the information received from Ministry of Home Affairs, the following steps were taken by the Government of India to clear up the blockade imposed by UNC, of National Highways leading into Manipur since 01.11.2016:-

(i) Ministry of Home Affairs provided additional Central Armed Police Force companies to assist the State Government of Manipur for maintenance of law and order and security coverage for movement of essential supplies, including movement of petroleum products on National Highways, into Manipur.

(ii) Besides movement of goods/POL products under security convoys, POL products were airlifted to Manipur.

(iii) There was intervention at the level of Union Home Minister who held a meeting with the Chief Ministers of Nagaland and Manipur to impress upon the urgency of opening of National Highways in Manipur.

(iv) Ministry of Home Affairs took initiative to hold tripartite meetings with Government of Manipur and UNC to resolve the issue. Meetings were held on 15.11.2016, 03.02.2017, 07.02.2017 and 19.03.2017. The blockade has since been lifted by UNC with effect from 19.03.2017.

(d) Government of Manipur has intimated that six (6) cases have been registered in respective police station jurisdictions where incidents of arson/damages were reported and investigated into.